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UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

## British plane crashes off Canary Isles

SANTA CRUZ DE TENERIFE, Canary Islands, April 25 (AP) — A chartered Boeing plane bound for the Canary Islands carrying 146 passengers, most of them Britons, crashed into the Atlantic Ocean today minutes before it was scheduled to land here, aviation sources reported. They said there was no immediate word on the fate of the plane. Three search planes had not so far reported finding any trace of the craft, they said. The sources said the charter, Flight Number DA 1000 of the British Dan-Air charter airline, was enroute from Manchester and lost contact with the Tenerife airport control tower five minutes before it was scheduled to land. In London, a spokesman for the airline said there were 135 adults, mostly Britons, three children and a crew of eight aboard. Most of the passengers, he said, were from the Manchester area. On March 27, 1977, a KLM 747 jet slammed into a taxiing Pan American World Airways 747 on a foggy runway at Santa Cruz in Tenerife, killing 582 persons in the world's worst air crash.

Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

## Lawyer shot dead in London

April 25 (R) — A Libyan lawyer was shot dead in the second Libyan to be killed in the British capital, police said. The dead man was named as Mahmoud al-Faraj, 40, who ran an Arabic legal consultancy in central London. Two weeks ago a Libyan freelance broadcaster, Mr. Mohammed Mustafa Ramadan, 35, was charged with his murder. Police said two gunmen shot him in a quiet back street, asked for him by him. One man seized at the scene and another chase were being questioned by police. Arab law said Mr. Nafie had worked as a lawyer in Libya 0 revolution and had lived in London at least five years. The anti-terrorist squad is leading the investigation.

number 1343

AMMAN, SATURDAY APRIL 26, 1980 — JAMADI AL THANI 11, 1400

## Times interview calls for haste European move

THE following article, based on an interview with King Hussein, appeared in yesterday's issue of The Times and is reprinted in full.

Shir Walker

24 — On the eve of intensified negotiations for Jordanian autonomy, the King today said for the EEC to make an initiative in the region from a position of "a calm, turmoil and

Speaking in his spacious hillside palace overlooking Amman, King Hussein said that Jordan's relations with America had sunk to their lowest ebb in the 27 years he has ruled. He emphasised that Europe had a more valuable role to play in the search for a peaceful settlement in the Middle East than either America or the Soviet Union.

"With all due respect to the two major powers, many of us are beginning to feel and speak more about the fact that there are also others who can contribute towards a solution and have a right to do so," he said. "Maybe part of the error of the recent past," which he blamed for the crisis, "had been the lack of participation of certain countries in reaching a solution."

The King urged both America and the Soviet Union to come forward and join the plan now under consideration by the EEC, adding that without Soviet participation no lasting settlement to the Middle East problem is feasible. He later disclosed that Jordan was for the first time actively considering buying Russian armaments.

"I feel that Europe has closer links with this area in terms of its destiny and its future," he explained. "Europe is less likely to be under pressure, it has more continuity and more of an

(Continued on page 2)



with The Times said that his "worst fears" about the map David peace was true. He called on states, including Jordan, to unveil their plans for an Arab League which would reach the Pales-

## Regional Briefs

April 25 (R)—Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin said today that the PLO of supporting plans for the the Israeli people. Interviewed in the daily, Yedioth Mr. Begin said: "There is nothing graver than this of the rights of the Palestinians to self-determination." To recognise the PLO, he said, "is to recognise the genocide of Israel." Two days ago, the PLO council of Europe became the first European body to recognise the PLO. The council resolution drew a tough response from the Israeli foreign ministry which condemned the resolution as an attempt to damage East peace process. Mr. Begin also said today that he continued its policy of establishing Jewish settlements in West Bank. "Settlement is vital. It is a fact that in Samaria (the West Bank) many settlements have been set up. This is vital for the defence of our people. And at which is not open to doubt," he said.

ABU DHABI, April 25 (R)—The Amir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa bin Ali Khalifa, today arrived in the United Arab Emirates for a three-day state visit, the official Emirates News said. The Amir, who arrived by boat, is accompanied by Minister Sheikh Mohammad Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, Jula bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia, second in line to throne and commander of the kingdom's national guard in Abu Dhabi on an official visit and last night had UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan, said. The agency said the talks covered current Arab national developments, especially the situation in the Gulf as bilateral relations.

TEL AVIV, April 25 (R)—Former Premier Yitzhak Rabin is the first choice of Israeli voters to be the country's next prime minister, according to an opinion poll published today. The poll, sponsored by Yedioth Aharonot, showed 18 per cent opting for Mr. Rabin, who resigned as opposition Labour Party leader over a \$50 million deal to buy arms from the Soviet Union. Only six per cent favoured him in a similar poll in 1977. Current opposition leader Shimon Peres was in second place with 17 per cent while Prime Minister Menachem Begin got 13 per cent, down three points from February. Defence Minister Ezer Weizman got 10 per cent.

BAHRAIN, April 25 (R)—Iraq has closed down the Baghdad-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and its personnel to leave, PFLP spokesman Bassam Abu today. The staff was flying to Beirut, he said. On April 3 government deported the Baghdad-based staff of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) regarded by Arab diplomats in Beirut as part of a clampdown by Baghdad on the Communist Party.

TEL AVIV, April 25 (R)—The Israeli army today destroyed a new Merkava (Chariot) tank yesterday, long barreled tank, with a narrow, flat turret, on the rocky plateau of the Golan Heights at nearly 4000 feet direct hits on targets at 1,000 metres. The tank is service with the Israeli army, which also has American 48 and British Centurion tanks. The Merkava has a turret at the rear which can transport eight fully equipped soldiers, a laser range-finder and a rear door which allows the crew to get out, rearm and refuel under fire.

ABU DHABI, April 25 (R)—The United Arab Emirates and Jordan today decided to establish diplomatic relations at the level of the official Emirates News Agency said in a joint ministry statement.

TEL AVIV, April 25 (R)—Mr. Agha Shabib, adviser to President Sadat on foreign affairs, left today for Tripoli for a three-day visit with Libyan Foreign Minister Ali Abdul Salam official sources said. The two ministers will discuss bilateral relations and the Islamic foreign ministers conference to be held in Tripoli from May 14 to 21.

## In response to abortive U.S. rescue mission Khomeini threatens to kill hostages

From combined news agency dispatches

Iranian revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and the militants holding the U.S. embassy in Tehran Friday threatened to kill the 50 embassy hostages if U.S. President Jimmy Carter tries another "silly manoeuvre" like the aborted

airborne rescue mission. Iran's foreign minister said the waters of the Gulf would be set ablaze with oil if another raid were attempted.

Eight American crewmen were killed and four others suffered burns when a helicopter and a trans-

port plane of the rescue mission collided during the withdrawal, U.S. Defence Secretary Harold Brown reported. Iranian reports said the aircraft had landed near Tabas, in the Dasht-e-Kavir desert 560 kilometres east of Tehran.

Tehran Radio broadcast a statement by the militants in the embassy declaring, "If America tries to resort to these unskillful and cowardly tricks, it will not only face the filthy lifeless corpses of the hostages but all those responsible for these plots will be buried in the soil of Iran."

Revolutionary leader Khomeini, in a statement quoted by Tehran Radio, accused President Carter of being ready "for the sake of his re-election as president of the republic...to commit any crime, even if that cost him killing all people."

He called the rescue mission a "silly manoeuvre" and said that if the United States tried another rescue "all the attackers and all the hostages would be killed."

The militants had threatened previously to kill the hostages if any American military moves were made against Iran.

Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh, who condemned the U.S. action as an "act of war," was quoted as saying that if the United States tries such a raid again Iran will open its tap, let oil flow into the Gulf and then set it ablaze.

Sketchy reports from Tehran indicated the Iranians believed some Americans might have been stranded in the eastern Iranian desert where the mission was aborted because of what President Carter called "equipment failures."

Tehran Radio told people in the area around Tebas to search for "marines and raiding personnel now in the region."

Mr. Qotbzadeh told the U.S. broadcast network CBS he had received information "there are some Americans" in the desert. "But this has not been precise."

U.S. Secretary of Defence Harold Brown said the rescue

attempt was aborted when there helicopters failed. He said the bodies of the eight American servicemen who were killed were left behind, but that all other personnel were safely withdrawn.

The operation involved approximately 90 U.S. military personnel, plus air crews, eight helicopters, which were based on the aircraft carrier Nimitz in the Arabian Sea, and transport airplanes, Mr. Brown said. Altogether, the mission was on

WASHINGTON, April 25 (R) — President Carter said today he felt a U.S. military operation to rescue American hostages in Iran which he cancelled was certain of success but for mechanical difficulties.

In a televised broadcast just hours after the abortive mission was disclosed, the president said there was no evidence the Iranian authorities had known about it until after it had been cancelled. He said he called off the operation late yesterday after the U.S. forces had landed in remote desert strip in Iran.

Mr. Carter said he accepted full responsibility for ordering the operation and disclosed that it had been carefully planned over a long period with an all-volunteer force that had repeatedly rehearsed its mission.

Mr. Carter, in a veiled warning to Iran not to take reprisals against the hostages because of the failed mission, said the United States still held the Tehran government responsible for the safety and early release of the hostages.

He said he would continue to pursue "every possible avenue" to secure the hostages' release.

He said planning for the mission began soon after the hostages were seized on Nov. 4 but for various reasons had not been mounted until now. "This rescue attempt had to await my judgment that the Iranian authorities could not and would not resolve this crisis on their own initiative," he said.

He stressed it was his decision to attempt the operation, and his decision to call it off after equipment failure in helicopters used by the force.

The casualties occurred when two helicopters collided on the ground during refuelling, he added.

He said the entire U.S. force had been evacuated safely and added: "There was no fighting, there was no combat."

In discussing the operation, President Carter said: "Our rescue mission was a very difficult one, and it was certain to be dangerous."

"We were all convinced that if and when the rescue operation had been commenced, that it had an excellent chance of success."

Iranian soldier for about three hours, he said.

It was cancelled because the rescue force was down to five operating helicopters instead of the planned minimum of six, he said.

He said that while taking off in the desert darkness, a helicopter collided with the C-130, and both caught fire. The field commander, who was not identified, then ordered his men to board the transport planes to return to the

carrier.

Iranian estimates said 400 to 500 were involved in the operation.

The Iranian military command claimed the aircraft crashed while fleeing from Iranian warplanes, but President Carter said there were no hostilities and that the Iranians were unaware of the U.S. attempt until several hours after the withdrawal.

The Americans took a busload of Iranian prisoners briefly before releasing them and flying off, Tehran Radio said.

The desert was being used as a staging area for the final leg of the mission to Tehran, President Carter said.

In Tehran, an estimated 10,000 jubilant Iranians poured into the streets around the U.S. embassy when they heard of the unsuccessful mission, celebrating with shouts and cheers. They flashed victory signs, clenched their fists and screamed, "down with Carter" and "Carter is finished."

Iranian radio said the militants were meeting to discuss their response to the rescue mission.

Ayatollah Khomeini said Mr. Carter was "ready to kill people" for the sake of his re-election.

"Carter's mistake is that he believes that he is capable, by resorting to such silly manoeuvres, to draw the Iranian people away from Islam and from struggle," Ayatollah Khomeini said in a Tehran Radio broadcast.

Mr. Qotbzadeh told CBS that he hoped the Iranian government would proceed with caution and "not react as nervously as the Americans did" in launching the raid.

He said he believed the Iranian

members of Iran's Revolutionary Council and urged restraint. He said he believed the Iranian

revolutionary leader and the entire Iranian government shared his feelings.

Mr. Qotbzadeh said President Carter had not explained why the action was taken, "and therefore I certainly see it as a clear indication for an act of war against Iran... If these kinds of things continue, believe me our nation is ready to go, to set fire in the whole region, not to let the Americans by force win anything."

Earlier in an interview with France's Channel TF-1, Mr. Qotbzadeh said: "If the students did something, who will be responsible? The Iranian government or the American government?"

Israeli Radio claimed that the rescue mission was launched from Egypt, and the planes, at least three C-130 transports, stopped in the Gulf island of Bahrain. ABC quoted a source in Tehran as saying at least the helicopter portion of the operation began in Pakistan.

The soldiers were believed flown in on transports and were to transfer to helicopters.

A statement from the Iranian joint chief of staff's office said reconnaissance planes were now overflying the area.

President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr visited the crash site Friday and said he had seen two planes and five helicopters. He commented, "Mr. Carter, who has sympathy for international laws, respects our territory and doesn't respect international law."

A message from Ayatollah Khomeini, read on state radio Friday night, said all the hostages who had been killed in the rescue mission had returned to the Tehran embassy.

"Carter must know that if this group had attacked the nest of espionage, there would be no sign of them or the spies by now and they would all have gone to hell."

Tehran Radio and Pars quoted the bus passengers as saying they were stopped on a road near Tabas at about 2:30 a.m. by American soldiers who spoke excellent Farsi (the Iranian language) and who ordered them to get out of the bus and took them to American airplanes nearby.

As the Iranians were being hustled into an aircraft, a helicopter exploded and the marines decided to leave and released the pas-



President Carter prepares to deliver his 7-minute national television report from the Oval Office of the White House in Washington Friday to explain the abortive attempt to rescue the American hostages from Iran. (AP wirephoto)

sengers, they said.

President Carter said "several" Americans were injured, but were expected to recover.

Pars said local police in the Tabas area surrounded the wreckage of a helicopter and an airplane.

President Carter did not say when the mission arrived in Iran or where the American troops were taken after it was aborted.

Tehran Radio called it an "unprecedented" U.S. defeat.

"The world-devouring America, proud of her satanic equipment, had tried to play with fire and had sent forces to the desert," it said. "However, the guardian and keeper of this uprisen nation, who from the beginning of this revolution has taken the protection, has inflicted a defeat and flight upon the Americans and their mercenaries unprecedented in their history and the history of the world."

Mr. Carter said last week military action would probably be the only course open to him if economic and diplomatic pressure by the United States and its allies did not result in the release in the near future of the Americans.

The principal action under consideration has been a blockade of Iran's oil shipments, most likely by mining the Iranian ports.

On Thursday, Mr. Qotbzadeh threatened to close the Gulf and cut off much of its Arab neighbours' oil exports to the rest of the world if the United States mined Iranian ports. He did not say how they would be attempted.

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## World reacts to hostage rescue mission

MOSCOW, April 25 (R) — The Soviet Union today denounced the abortive U.S. rescue mission in Iran as a reckless action that balanced on the brink of madness and might have started a war.

When President Carter announced details of the failed mission to free the American hostages in Tehran, the official Soviet News Agency Tass speedily condemned it while Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, visiting Paris, said his first reaction was one of incredulity. "We condemn the American action. We don't think it can lead to a peaceful solution," he said.

Tass, describing the U.S. operation as an armed provocation against Iran, said it was launched in defiance of international law and could have sparked a war in the Gulf, killing thousands of innocent people.

President Carter launched the rescue bid in a vain attempt to present himself as a strong leader and get himself re-elected at any price, the Soviet agency said in a report from New York.

It accused the president of being prepared to risk mass bloodshed and the lives of the 50 American hostages for his own electoral interests.

The Soviet agency said America's European allies might have been expected to exert a moderating influence on the "crazy" plans of the United States, but in fact they were supporting Washington.

Concessions which the allies had made to the U.S. over sanctions against Iran were leading only to a heightening of tension which would free President Carter's hands to broaden the military confrontation in the Gulf region.

"Responsibility for these actions of Carter's are borne by the American administration, and by those who support it," Tass said, in an obvious reference to America's allies.

The United States' NATO allies, not consulted about the operation, voiced understanding and sympathy over the attempt, western alliance sources in Brussels said.

NATO diplomats said President Carter took a gamble and the Western World would have applauded had the operation been successful.

The same tone was adopted by Egypt and also Israel, which in 1976 staged a successful rescue of hostages from Encebbe airport in Uganda.

Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin said: "I am very sorry about the mistakes which happened. I hope that the status of the U.S. in the world is not harmed. Mistakes can happen to anybody."

Egyptian President Anwar Sadat echoed these views, commenting "It is hard luck and should not dishearten more action to free and rescue the hostages."

Commenting on an Israeli Radio report that the U.S. planes in the abortive rescue operation had taken off from Egypt, he said: "I have promised the American people that I shall give facilities for the rescue of the hostages and for the rescue of any Arab state of the Gulf." He did not elaborate.

But the failed mission also prompted fears of violence escalating in the region.

Japanese Foreign Minister Saburo Okita said of the surprise attempt: "I am worried and seriously concerned that the U.S. action this time may lead to armed action in the future."

Japan recently joined the European Common Market in deciding on limited sanctions against Iran. Mr. Okita, asked if Japan would now continue with the measures, said: "I cannot say... until the case has been clarified."

Italy told the United States it was opposed to the use of force to free the hostages in Tehran while India said it could not condone military adventurism.

An Indian external affairs ministry spokesman said New Delhi could not "condone military adventurism of the type inherent in the attempt by the United States which can have large-scale and long-term negative implications for stability and peace in the West Asian region."

Fears of a more volatile situation were also voiced by NATO Secretary-General Joseph Luns who said: "In view of the emotional nature of the Iranians, I fear they will react strongly to the American attempt to free the hostages."

Australian Foreign Minister Andrew Peacock, underlining these fears, said: "I trust that in the days ahead there will be a great deal of restraint shown by all parties."

Spokesman for French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing and West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt said neither leader had prior warning of the United States mission. Neither had any immediate comment to make.

In London, political sources said British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher today sent President Carter a message praising his courage in launching the abortive operation.

The sources said Britain had at no point contemplated the use of its forces to help free the hostages and continued to support the EEC's diplomatic and economic sanctions plan.

Britain's deputy foreign secretary, Sir Ian Gilmour said his conservative government commiserated with the United States, declaring that it was time for allies to stick together.

For the relatives of the hostages, held in Tehran since Nov. 4, news of the abortive mission came as a bitter blow.

Mrs. Dorothea Morefield, wife of the U.S. consul general in Tehran, said: "I'm scared to death. I'm really scared."

China, which has recently expressed concern that Washington's policies towards Tehran might drive Iran closer to the Soviet Union, declined comment. "The situation is not clear. No comment," a foreign ministry official said.

Mr. Luns, holding a press conference later in Copenhagen, said there were no plans to put NATO forces on the alert. The new crisis over Iran was not one that directly involved NATO, he added.

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Mondays.  
Advertising and subscription rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

## Fresh water through sun power: Germany, RSS cooper

By Ron Cathell

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, April 25 — With the assistance of West Germany, the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) will soon launch two new solar energy projects aimed at ensuring supplies of fresh, clean drinking water for people in remote arid regions, according to Dr. Otfried Schneider, solar division head of German Appropriate Technology Exchange (GATE).

One project will focus on perfecting a simple water distillation process using the greenhouse method, and the other project will combine both solar energy and wind power to pump water from wells — a project never before attempted here. Dr. Schneider told the Jordan Times recently. Both projects will take two years and cost a total of about DM 6 million (JD 1 million). DM 2.5 million for the distillation project and DM 3.5 million for the well pumping project.

Dr. Schneider, a top German hydrologist, was in Jordan last week to review progress on the GATE-RSS solar desalination project at Aqaba, which was officially completed last Saturday when West Germany and the National Planning Council (NPC) signed the extension agreement for 1979, marking the end of the very successful two-year project.

Signing of the extension agreement made official the aid Jordan had already received in the past year. The plant, now exclusively a Jordanian operation, will continue producing 2,625 litres of clean water an hour.

While here, Dr. Schneider wrapped up a few details of the next project between the two science and technology centres. An RSS official told the Jordan Times that this project, the water distillation system, will be started in about a month following signing of the agreement with GATE, which will initiate the transfer of West

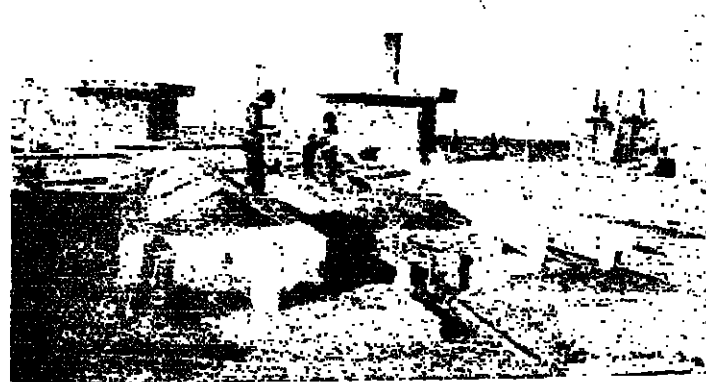
German aid for the project. GATE is a branch of West Germany's institute for technical cooperation (GTZ).

For the distillation project, GATE and the RSS will draw on the vast assortment of greenhouse techniques used throughout the world, and adapt several types for use in different conditions. The purpose of the project, Dr. Schneider says, is to refine the design of a few types of distillation greenhouse that could be easily assembled and maintained by local inhabitants.

Dr. Schneider's sights are not set just on helping the inhabitants of Jordan's remote area. He hopes the knowledge and skills gained in the project can be utilised throughout the Middle East and Africa, where the supply of clean drinking water is often meagre. "This technology eventually will be used in the Middle East and Africa in arid areas where there is only brackish water from wells 200 to 300 metres deep and with too much salinity or minerals," Dr. Schneider said.

West Germany chose Jordan as the site of the project because of the excellent results achieved in previous joint projects. Dr. Schneider has been working with the RSS on joint projects and offering technical assistance for seven years, and their track record shows nothing but success.

"The RSS is one of the most efficient institutes of its kind," the water engineer said. "You present



Two experimental distillation greenhouses have already been built and are undergoing tests as part of the Aqaba desalination project in Aqaba.

them with a project idea, and they can do it. I'm sure we'll perfect these systems to be used elsewhere."

Jordan is also geographically ideal for Mr. Schneider's work. Not only does it receive more than its share of sunny days with rare exceptions such as the past winter; it also has vast arid regions where water supply is a problem. This makes hydro-solar project sites in Jordan perfect "laboratories in practice, where techniques can be perfected under the conditions of the field," Dr. Schneider said.

The principle of the greenhouse method of distilling water is simple, but there are many variations. Basically, a low greenhouse-shaped structure, usually about one metre high, intensifies the sun's heat. Brackish or unclear water is passed through the green-

house and allowed to evaporate. As the vapour, pure of pollutants and minerals, comes in contact with the cool sides of the greenhouse, it condenses, streams down the walls, and is collected.

Dr. Schneider wants to devise greenhouses that can be made from materials available locally, and simple enough for local inhabitants to operate and maintain.

Other greenhouse distillation units throughout the world have a lifetime of only up to six months because of corrosion problems and the build up of residues, but he is convinced models can be devised that can operate indefinitely. He criticises the international mechanism for the transfer and exchange of technology on the subject as not being put to practical use.

"I've been to more conferences on such subjects than you would believe. And all that the 'experts' do is talk, talk talk. But we want to 'do', and put ideas into practical use," Dr. Schneider said.

"The main part of all this research is not for the sake of research itself, but it is to aid the locals, the industries and factories so they can eventually do it themselves," he said.

Because of the varying geographical and climatic conditions of the regions where the distillation

units would be used, Dr. Schneider wants to develop a system appropriate to each situation to ensure that the most efficient method is being employed. Once the different units are perfected, West Germany may consider manufacturing prefabricated models for countries which do not have the capability to make their own.

In a separate, unprecedented project, GATE and the RSS are to build an autonomous system which will use solar energy and wind power to pump water from deep wells in remote areas where there is no fuel or conventional power source to drive electronic pumps.

No official agreement on this subject has yet been signed between the two sides, but in meetings here last month with RSS and NPC officials Dr. Schneider was given the green light to prepare and present a feasibility study to GATE and the West German government. Approval of the project is assured, Dr. Schneider told the Jordan Times that the inter-

The airport area is ideal because it is relatively dry, RSS, and yet it is still in region.

"We're undertaking now to pump water 200 hours using solar energy," Schneider said. "But this very big fields of photo cells, and they are very expensive. If you want to supply a 100 of eight to ten thousand with the water from wells forget about using the solar."

"It could be done, but cost a fortune. I'm more in hundreds of small nomads and their she goats." He added that I like to use solar energy and wind power at a much which is more efficient, combine both methods a pure the results.

One application of it which should be considered using the autonomous systems to lift water for petroleum fuel can be



An example of West German technical cooperation: the Aqaba distillation plant.

mans have agreed in principle to the project. So he is now in Germany busy preparing the feasibility study and itemised cost estimate.

Work on the project could start even before a financial assistance agreement is signed, by using some of the funds marked for the distillation project. The RSS and GATE want to begin immediately on the pumping project, and admit that the transfer of DM 2.5 million this year for the distillation project is more than is required at this time. If all parties agree, the project can get underway immediately and be followed later in the year with signing of a financial and technical assistance agreement.

The project involves starting electricity in batteries that are charged both by solar (photo-voltaic) cells and by a wind-driven generator. This combination would ensure a constant electricity supply — solar cells are efficient for only six peak hours of the day, but the wind continues to blow, at varying speeds, for 24 hours each day.

Dr. Schneider has already located two sites at which to start the project, both near the new Queen Alia airport. He has received permission to use the wells at both spots from the Natural Resources Authority and the Water Supply Corporation.

drive generators. Never Jordan, such as the south, are barren desert known underground reserves. In many such soil is remarkably fertile is needed is a low-cost bringing water to the

West Germany has spent DM 10 million research projects and assistance. Most of it went into the desalination Aqaba. After two years and upgrading, the plant capable of producing 1 of pure water an hour square metre of a solar panel. The plant now square metres of solar

This amount is a improvement over the an hour output obtained after the plant was first ing that year the German hydrologists improved to five litres an hour, during the second year ject that the optimum seven litres an hour was remarkable accomplish such a short time.

Dr. Schneider is project and the men fr who carried it out, excellent engineers he "And they are now thinking, solar."

## Fear and foreboding

ONE OF President Carter's policy advisers is said to have warned during an in-house debate on America's handling of the Iran crisis this week that "we are slipping down a slippery slope towards a military confrontation."

By authorising the attempted rescue mission which has ended in disaster in the remote Iranian desert, Mr. Carter seems to have taken a decided leap down that slope.

Since the news of the abortive mission was announced yesterday, the world has held its breath. Whatever may have been the rescue plan, and however one may sympathise with America's collective exasperation over the hostages affair, the fact remains that the U.S. has mounted a military operation against a hostile foreign country. In doing so it has ended the period when it has merely been "declining to rule out" the use of force to try and resolve this dispute. The operation mounted effectively kills the prospect of a negotiated solution being achieved through diplomatic means; further diplomatic moves will be meaningless.

This is alarming not only in terms of the precedent it sets and the danger in which it places the American hostages, but because President Carter seems to have ignored the mounting chorus of advice he has been getting, particularly from America's European allies, not to resort to a military option. Just a day before the rescue teams landed in the Iranian desert, the White House was saying it "strongly welcomes" EEC support for proposed economic sanctions against Iran. At the same time, many of those allies were sending clear signals to Washington about the perils of military action. And now, in giving details of the botched mission, President Carter has said the support of America's allies is needed more than ever before. The allies (including Japan), who stand to lose as much as the U.S. in terms of economic interests from the alienation of Iran, can hardly feel reassured about their reluctant agreement to go along with the American sanctions proposal, when President Carter now says the military rescue mission was launched because he was convinced that the Iranian authorities "could not and would not resolve this crisis on their own initiative." If so, what good were sanctions supposed to do? And what good do Europe and Japan now gain from having committed themselves to take a belligerent stance against Iran?

There were also voices in the U.S. crying out against any contemplated use of force. Only the other day, a U.S. Methodist Church delegation had called on Mr. Carter "not to give in to those who counsel military intervention, nor to take steps which will lead eventually to war." And only the day before the mission was aborted in disaster, Mr. Carter was sending soothing messages to the Senate foreign relations committee about holding the military option in abeyance.

Furthermore, can all the planners and thinkers and strategists in the White House basement have missed the fact that, only the day before the mission was apparently launched, the Iranians had asked the Soviet Union to help them in the event of any American military move? The Soviets, eager to improve their relations with Tehran and enhance their position generally in the region, are likely to respond favourably to such a request. Now they have the best reason in the world for doing so.

And, as the London Daily Telegraph said in an editorial yesterday: "Any form of military action against Iran would open the possibility of direct clashes between American and Russian forces. Since in any such localised encounter in that part of the world, Russian forces would have an overwhelming advantage, the result could only be either a humiliating defeat for America or the broadening of the conflict, possibly into a nuclear war." As it turns out, the bungle has produced both the humiliation and the threat of a wider conflict.

The White House's bland assurances that the operation was not directed against the Iranian people are unlikely to placate the authorities in Tehran, who must now, under intense pressure, cast about for a response appropriate to their own perceptions and requirements — a response to what they can only see as a hostile, armed attack on their sovereign territory.

It is in these circumstances that those of us in this region feel such fear and foreboding, as a very real source of potential global conflict is once again planted in our midst. The Iran mission was an ill-advised move taken by a poorly advised President.

## ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I: Israeli terrorism and acts of repression against Arabs in the occupied territories have assumed dangerous proportions to cause widespread damage to Arab property.

The window-smashing rampage against Arab homes and vehicles in Ramallah and Al Bireh is but a further sign of Israel's policy of evicting Palestinians from their homeland by deliberate escalation of terrorism against the Arab population. It is natural, therefore, that the Arabs, in self-defence, vow to retaliate for Israeli vandalism.

AL DUSTOUR: The results of recent visits to Washington by Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and the leader of Israel's opposition Labour Party, Mr. Shimon Peres, are incongruent and somewhat puzzling.

Mr. Begin had accused both the Americans and the Egyptians of not honouring the letter and the spirit of the Camp David agreements, whereas we hear Mr. Peres and President Carter announce yesterday that they have a broad agreement on the Middle East situation and on methods of settling the region's problems.

Washington at first seemed to support Mr. Begin's views even when he set very difficult conditions for the resumption of the autonomy talks; now it seems to be supporting Mr. Peres's ideas as though it were endorsing his party's return to power. But what should be emphasised is that with any government in Israel, be it led by Likud or by Labour, nothing will improve as long as Washington continues to support the expansionist design of Israel.

## Local News Briefs

AMMAN, April 25 (JNA)—A four-day seminar on the role of women in society will open here tomorrow under the chairmanship of His Highness Crown Prince Hassan. A number of working papers on women's problems and their role in education, vocational training and social work will be presented at the seminar which will be attended by participants from ten Arab states and Palestine as well as representatives from UNESCO, UNICEF and the International Labour Organisation (ILO). The seminar is organised by the Ministry of Labour in cooperation with the United Nations Fund for Population Activities.

DAMASCUS, April 25 (JNA)—The Syrian-Jordanian joint electrical power committee began its 14th meeting here today to review the countries' projects. A four-member team from the Jordan Electricity Authority is representing Jordan in the three-day meeting.

AMMAN, April 25 (JNA)—The visiting Soviet educational delegation today visited the ancient city of Petra in southern Jordan. The delegation later was taken on a tour of the agricultural school in Shobak, where its members were briefed on the school's activities and programmes.

AMMAN, April 25 (JT)—As of yesterday the two bridges across the River Jordan were reopened to normal traffic, a spokesman for the Public Security Directorate (PSD) said yesterday. He was quoted by Al Ra'i newspaper as saying that the intermittent closure of the bridges was so that repairs could be done on the bridges, which sustained damage due to the rising level of river water because of this winter's heavy rains. Al Ra'i also reported that Public Security has announced tenders for the construction of modern passport and travellers' halls near the bridges.

AMMAN, April 25 (JNA)—A two-day conference of Arab dentists ended here today. Participants listened to lectures by prominent dentists from Jordan, Iraq and Syria on dental diseases and modern

methods of treatment. The conference, organised by the Jordanian Dentists' Association, was opened at the Professional Association Complex last night by Health Minister Zuhair Malhas, who also inaugurated a trade exhibition of dental equipment, clinics and medicine.

RAMTHA, April 25 (JNA)—A number of people were taken ill after drinking contaminated water from a tower situated in the northern district of this town. Health Minister Zuhair Malhas, who supervised the treatment of those infected at the town's hospital, said they were all given speedy treatment and have been discharged after being completely cured. Medical enquiries have been started to determine the cause of the contamination and a team of doctors and specialists was set up to help conduct the task. Dr. Malhas said. According to the Governor of Irbid, Mr. Abed Daudiye, pumping of drinking water from the water tower to the town has been halted pending the team's findings, and that work has already started on the replacement of the old water pipe network in the town.

Continued from page 1

emphasis on principles."

The King bitterly criticised the problems caused by electoral considerations in American policy.

The EEC leaders have indicated that they will wait at least until the May 26 deadline for agreement in the Egyptian-Israeli autonomy talks before formally unveiling their Middle East plans.

But today King Hussein insisted that more urgent action was needed as it had become obvious that the Camp David process had "run out of steam."

Both the King and Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, his new Prime Minister, have made it clear in interviews that any lingering American or Egyptian hopes that Jordan may still belatedly be persuaded to join the Camp David process are based on wishful thinking.

There is considerable anger at all levels of the Jordanian government about what is seen as

repeated efforts by the Carter administration to try to force Jordan into playing a part.

The King today repeated his central and unchanged conviction that the Palestinian issue remains the key to any future Middle East settlement. "As far as that aspect was concerned the Camp David formula was always a non-starter," he told me.

"It spoke of people but not of land, and about rights which these people could exercise as guests under Israeli control and occupation. It was really just an excuse for Israel to try to gain time and alter the shape of reality to a point where the obstacles in the way of any real attempt to find a lasting solution would be monumental."

During the 60-minute interview, the King was pessimistic about the chances of forging sufficient Arab unity for a joint initiative to counter the Camp David process.

Although this remains his long-term goal, and will again he pursued in advance of the Amman Arab summit in November, it appears that there is little chance of it being achieved especially after the divisions brought to light by this month's meeting in Tripoli of the "steadfastness" group.

As a result, the Jordanian monarch — whose own participation has long been regarded as vital for a comprehensive settlement — sees European intervention as the Middle East's best hope. "At this stage, the United States has lost the possibility of influencing events in the region in a positive way," he stated.

The King, who has had extensive diplomatic contacts with European governments in recent months, revealed that he shared the view of the British Foreign Office that Arab support for the West over issues like Afghanistan is not feasible in the present Middle East situation.

"The Palestinian problem and lack of a solution is dividing the area from what could be identified as the rest of the free world," he

declared.

"You cannot expect backing of the people because of the people, for the Muslims of when Jerusalem — what to millions of Christians — is still a occupation."

The King spoke with optimism about the security in the Middle East at one point that he damage done by Camp area was in "a state of confusion, a state of anger and fast approach when hope would find

Apparently hinting stability of nuclear war region at some point he told me: "New abilities are infinite in can really become a jungle than it is at with methods of destruction could be devastating all of us in the area, world as whole."

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### Films

The Department of Culture and Arts, in cooperation with the Embassy of East Germany, presents the first night in a festival of German films, starting 8 p.m. at Versailles Cinema.

### Sculpture Exhibition

The Jordan National Gallery presents an exhibition of sculpture by Samer Tabba. The gallery is open daily except on Tuesdays.

### Stamps Exhibition

The French Cultural Centre, in cooperation with the Ministry of Telecommunications, presents an exhibition of Jordanian and French stamps. This exhibition is on display daily until April 27.

### Art Exhibition

The Jordanian Artists' Association presents an exhibition of paintings, sculpture and ceramics by 45 Jordanian artists, most of whom are association members. The works are displayed at the association's centre in Jabal Luweibdeh (in a side street opposite the French Cultural Centre). The exhibition is open every day, including Friday, until April 30. Opening hours: 10:00 to 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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# Damas-Scene

ed for the Jordan Times by Pat McDonnell

(Week of April 26 - May 2)

## EXHIBITIONS

**Y, April 28:** A collection of photos commemorating 60 Soviet rule in Azerbaijan will open for one week in the Al Sharb Gallery.

**Y, April 29:** Damascene artist Mamoun. Homs will be in a solo show, entitled "Man and Earth" in Al Sha'b 6:30 p.m. reception will open the 10-day show. Born in Homs is a graduate of the Fine Arts Centre. Approx-4 abstract oil paintings will be shown in this, the artist's 1st show. Hours: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; 4 - 8 p.m. daily except

**Y, April 29:** In conjunction with Yugoslav Cultural Week, a collection of original oil paintings by Yugoslav artists is on view in the Hall of the Damascus National Museum. Inform films, lectures and dance recitals may be obtained by the Yugoslav Embassy.

**Y, April 29:** Collection of mixed media works by Palestinian painters to be on view through Monday in the "Karamah Day" in Al Sha'b Gallery.

**Y, April 29:** More than 70 reproductions of satirical cartoons by French artists from 1830 to the present continues in the French Centre. The works of Daumier, Effel, Poulot, Chaval, Sempe are included.

## LECTURES

**Y, April 27:** "The Kosovo Region of Yugoslavia" will be a lecture sponsored by the Arab Writers' Union at 6 p.m. in the Arab Cultural Centre (in Arabic).

**Y, April 28:** In the series of lectures entitled "Writer and the World" Dr. Mohammad Mohaffil and Dr. Suhail Zakar will discuss the Khazari Empire at 6 p.m. in the Arab Cultural Centre (in Arabic).

**Y, April 29:** "Actualite Artistique en France" entitled a lecture by Mr. Jean-Pierre Fournier, a professor of art from a Paris film school. The first lecture is entitled "The Talk will be illustrated by colour slides (in Arabic).

**Y, April 29:** "The latest novel by Hermann Kant, will be discussed by Dr. Wilhelm Vietinghoff at 8 p.m. in the German Democratic Republic Cultural Centre. Mr. Kant is head of the department at the centre. A small number of copies of are available on loan from the centre. The lecture will be in Arabic.

**Y, April 30:** "Plant Protection by Aviation" will be a lecture by Dr. Reinhard Bartsch at 6:30 p.m. in the Goethe Centre. The speaker is affiliated with the University of Bonn and has carried out work in plant protection by air in the Sudan and Morocco.

## VIDEO-TAPED PROGRAMME

**Y, April 30:** A dramatic presentation of the probing from the influx of the rural population to the cities, "Irons plus au champs," will be shown at 6 p.m. in the Cultural Centre.

## FILMS

**Y, April 26 and MONDAY, April 28:** "Les Grandes" a psychological film about a love triangle directed by Enrico in 1965, will be shown at 7:30 p.m. both evenings in the Cultural Centre (in French, with Arabic sub-titles: d white). Lino Ventura and Michel Constantin star.

**Y, April 26:** "Interiors" by Woody Allen will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in the Cultural Centre.



"The Land" on titles this oil painting by Mamoun Homs, one of 24 works featured in a one-man show at Al Sha'b Gallery, shown at 7:30 p.m. in the American Cultural Centre. Tickets may be obtained by signing up for membership at the centre.

\*\*\* "Ein Tag Mit Dem Wind" entitled a 1977 film directed by Haro Senft to be shown in the Goethe Institute. It stars Marcel Maillard and Barbara Rutzmoser (in German, with Arabic sub-titles).

**SUNDAY, April 27:** "On the Way to Lenin," a feature film after the book by Alfred Kurella, will be shown at 6:30 p.m. in the German Democratic Cultural Centre (Arabic sub-titles). A documentary, "Man is at the Centre," also will be shown (in Arabic).

**MONDAY, April 28:** Two documentaries, one on the capital city of Azerbaijan, the other on the fine arts of Azerbaijan, will be shown at 7 p.m. in the Soviet Cultural Centre (in English, with Arabic sub-titles).

\*\*\* A film on the fine arts of Britain will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in the British Cultural Centre.

**TUESDAY, April 29:** Films on the natural sciences will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in the British Cultural Centre.

**WEDNESDAY, April 30:** "The Chairman" entitled a feature film to be shown at 7 p.m. in the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Russian, with Arabic sub-titles).

\*\*\* Films on astronomy and the universe will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in the British Cultural Centre.

**THURSDAY, May 1:** The British Cultural Centre will show films on education at 7:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, May 3:** "The Traditional World of Islam," Parts I - III, will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in the British Cultural Centre.

## THEATRE

THE NATIONAL THEATRE of Syria is presenting Ali Okla Arsan's adaptation of Sophocles' "Antigone" nightly at Al Kabani Theatre. Curtain time is 8:30 p.m. (in Arabic).

"AL MUFTAH" (The Key) entitled a drama presented at 8:30 p.m. in Al Hamra Theatre. Assad Fouda is directing the show (in Arabic).

## PAT-POURRI

THE SYRIAN ARAB CULTURAL CENTRE opens tonight, April 26, in Paris. More than 40 paintings by 28 of Syria's most outstanding artists are featured in the opening ceremonies. Folk dancing and rustic photos will also be on display.

If you have items for the Damas-Scene column, please send them to P.O. Box 5601 or telephone them to Pat McDonnell in Damascus at 336-658.

# Jordanian researcher discovers new cell

By Fawzia Mai  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, April 25--A new type of brain cell has been discovered by a Jordanian histologist, Dr. Munib Al Wirr, and was enthusiastically received by the International Symposium on the Morphological Sciences in August of last year in Ohio. The cell, named by Dr. Wirr a neuro-lipomastoid cell (NLMC), was also called by the International Anatomical Nomenclature a "Wirr cell", after its discoverer.

It was eight years ago that Dr. Wirr embarked on the studies that were to lead to his discovery. He was then looking for an explanation for the presence of serotonin (one of the chemical substances responsible for allergic reactions) in the cerebrospinal fluid (a fluid bathing the brain and the spinal cord). Since it could not have filtered through from the blood, it had to come from somewhere else.

Then in 1973, Dr. Wirr noticed some cells that looked like mast cells (a type of cell found elsewhere in the body, which usually release many kinds of chemical substances -- including serotonin and thus cause allergic reactions). Upon further studies, he found that they were in fact two types of cells.

One is very much like mast cells, and consequently was named Type I mast cell, whereas the second is somehow different and contains a lot of lipid (fatty) material. And so, Dr. Wirr named it a neuro-lipomastoid cell: "A descriptive name," he stressed to the Jordan Times. "Neuro" because it is found only in brain tissue, "lipo" because it is rich in lipid material, and "mastoid" because it resembles the mast cell.

In order to determine the exact structure and contents of this cell, Dr. Wirr used histochemical methods, autoradiography and electron microscopy. There is no electron microscope at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Jordan, where he works as a professor of histology -- the study of anatomical tissues. So he did most of his study using the electron microscope of the medical school at the American University of Beirut where he was Visiting Professor of Histology last year.

Thus he determined that the NLMC is a sometimes spherical, sometimes ellipsoid and sometimes spindle-shaped cell, of an average diameter of 10 microns (thousandths of a millimetre). The NLMC's two main characteristics

are: first, that it is situated adjacent to venules and arterioles (minute blood vessels) embedded in the outer coat of blood vessels in the brain; and second, that it contains granules that release upon stress substances like serotonin, histamin and heparin.

"Stress" is a rather general term, explained Dr. Wirr, encompassing a number of factors such as cold, high pressure and direct trauma. Dr. Wirr tested the response of the NLMC to these factors and found that it "responded very easily to these factors by degranulation" -- that is, the granules would release the substances stored in them.

If the "stress" is of a physiological or very light pathological order, then the reaction is a reversible one. That is, after some time, the granules will be replenished with the substances they have released.

But if the stress is severely pathological, then the degranulation is irreversible. The cell becomes exhausted and shrinks; and upon microscopic examination of the area of the brain that received the stress, one can see remnants of NLMC cells lying around. Ultimately, new cells will replace the traumatised ones -- but this will take considerably more time than replenishment in less severe cases.

This degranulation process, according to Dr. Wirr, is of the utmost importance, and, he confided to the Jordan Times, "might explain many of the mysterious symptoms of some nervous diseases, and the sequelae (after effects) of direct trauma to the brain." He refused to go into more detail about what he meant by symptoms and sequelae, because this is only a theory so far, and he is working on new studies in order to prove it.

The function in other parts of the body of the chemical substances released by the NLMC is to cause allergic reactions; but in the brain, "their function is not known exactly," Dr. Wirr theorises, however, that they may be in great part responsible for the harmful effects appearing after severe trauma to the brain. His present work concentrates on the function of these substances and on "how to avoid harm to the brain by controlling their (the NLMC's) cell membranes".

To continue his research, Dr. Wirr will be using the electron microscope (EM) situated in the Biological Department at the University of Jordan. However, he finds this arrangement incon-



Dr. Munib Al Wirr

venient, and says that the Medical Faculty is "struggling with the university administration to get a budget to acquire an EM unit for the Faculty of Medicine."

"The administration thinks the one in the biology department is enough for everybody. But it is not. An EM unit serves not only research work but it is also a very valuable help in clinical diagnosis. It is especially useful for the diagnosis of certain diseases of the liver, kidney and muscles. The medical schools' hospitals at Damascus and Beirut regularly use their EM unit for diagnostic purposes, and I do hope the administration will soon agree to allocate us a budget for an EM unit."

Dr. Munib Al Wirr was born in Salt in 1948. He obtained his Bachelor of Science degree from the Faculty of Science of the University of Jordan, then moved to

the American University of Beirut (AUB), where he later obtained his Master's degree and his PhD in Basic Medical Sciences, with a sub-specialty in Histology.

He then taught histology (the science dealing with the microscopic structures of living things) at the AUB's medical school before joining the staff of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Jordan. He was also invited by AUB last year to take the temporary position of visiting professor in anatomy and histology.

Besides teaching and research work, Dr. Wirr has published a number of articles in medical journals such as *Acta Anatomica*, the *Neurological Sciences Journal* and the *Brain Research Journal*, and taken part in many international conferences on basic medical sciences and histology.

Talking about his success at the International Symposium on the Morphological Sciences last August, Dr. Wirr says the "reaction was marvellous and unbelievable." In previous conferences where over the years he presented the various stages of his research before its completion, some scientists, especially older ones, refused to accept the idea of these cells because this would completely upset many of their theories.

The morphological symposium is held once every two years and presents only the most important unpublished new work on anatomy and histology. Dr. Wirr has been invited to give a talk to the American Association of Anatomists in Nebraska this month. He has also been invited to participate in the International Congress of Anatomists in Mexico in August of this year.

## LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

U.S. dollar	302.50/304.50
U.K. sterling	688.20/692.50
West German mark	166.50/167.50
Swiss franc	178.50/179.80
French franc	71.40/71.80
Italian lire	
(for every 100)	34.40/35.60
Japanese yen	
(for every 100)	124.00/124.70
Dutch guilder	151.10/152.00
Swedish crown	70.40/70.80
Belgian franc	103.80/104.40

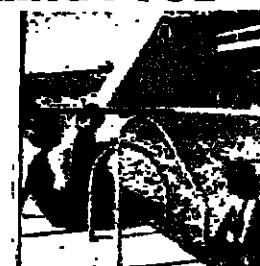
## TODAY'S WEATHER

It will be fine, with north-westerly, moderate winds. In Aqaba, winds will be a north-easterly and calm seas.

	Overnight	Daytime
low	8	20
high	14	30
Amman	9	24
Aqaba	13	28
Deserts		
Jordan Valley		

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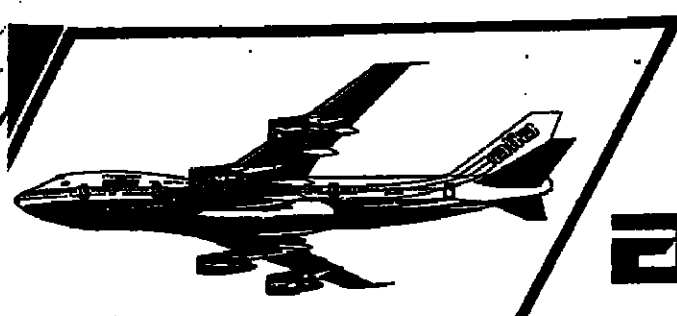
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## Japan signs new oil contracts

TOKYO, April 25 (R)—Six Japanese trading houses, hit by the suspension of Iranian oil shipments have signed contracts with Qatar to import a total of 125,000 barrels of crude a day, industry sources said here today. Under one-year direct deal contracts from this month, they will pay a premium of \$6.5 in addition to the sales price of \$29.23 for 45,000 barrels, they said.

Mitsubishi Corp, Mitsui and Company, Sumitomo Corp, Nichimen, Nissho-Iwai and C. Itoh, will pay just the sales price for the remainder of the crude from Qatar, which supplied Japan with 85,000 barrels a day last year.

Yesterday, industry sources said two other Japanese firms, Idemitsu Kosan Kaisha and Daikyo Oil, had signed one year contracts to buy extra crude total-

ling 110,000 barrels a day from Kuwait. Both companies have agreed to pay a premium of \$5.50 a barrel on top of the normal purchase price of \$27.50 for the extra oil, they added. Last year, Kuwait supplied Japan with nearly 162 million barrels of oil out of a total of 1.77 billion.

Meanwhile, the sources said that apart from Qatar and Kuwait, Japanese trading firms and oil refineries were looking to Indonesia, Mexico and the United Arab Emirates for increased oil supplies to lessen the impact of the Iranian suspension.

Indonesia's state-run Pertamina Corp has told Japanese importers that it will increase shipments to Japan by 30,000 barrels a day from next month. At present, Japan receives 200,000 barrels daily from Pertamina, they added.

## Gold price jumps to \$552

LONDON, April 25. (Agencies)—The price of gold and key commodities rose sharply today after the U.S. announcement of a failed attempt to rescue the U.S. hostages in Iran. Investors, anxious about international tensions and possible repercussions from the attempt, hurried to buy strategic materials.

Traders said some Far Eastern markets, the first to bear the brunt of the news, were thrown into turmoil. The dollar also began a decline but central banks moved quickly to support it by buying dollars, currency dealers said.

After the first hectic reaction on international markets, however, the volume of trading dropped off and prices steadied. Investors were holding back to await clarification of the U.S. operation and to analyse its possible consequences.

The price of gold lifted to \$552 an ounce compared with \$528.5

just before the White House disclosed the attempt. Other metals and important commodities rose by between 1.5 and four per cent, a substantial rise by normal standards.

Copper rose in pre-market trading in London by £38 to £962 a tonne and aluminium by £17 to £834 a tonne. Nickel, tin, lead and silver also lifted sharply in price.

However, one factor helping the value of the dollar was a rise in interest rates on dollars deposited in Europe which was itself caused by concern about the failed attempt to free the hostages. Interest rates usually increase in response to a rise in risk.

Meanwhile, on Wall Street, the Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks dropped 5.63 to 791.47 in the first half hour. Declines outnumbered advances by a 4 to 1 ratio in the early tally of New York stock exchange-listed issues.

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON, April 25 (R)—Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at the close of trading on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets today.

One sterling	2.2760/90
One U.S. dollar	1.1830/33
	1.8150/75
	1.9970/2.0020
	1.6870/6900
	28.95/29.05
	4.2200/4.2300
	847.00/850.00
	245.00/246.00
	4.2625/2725
	4.9575/9675
	5.6700/6900
One ounce of gold	546.00/549.00

U.S. dollar	
Canadian dollar	
West German marks	
Dutch guilders	
Swiss francs	
Belgian francs	
French francs	
Italian lire	
Japanese yen	
Swedish crowns	
Norwegian crowns	
Danish crowns	
U.S. dollars	

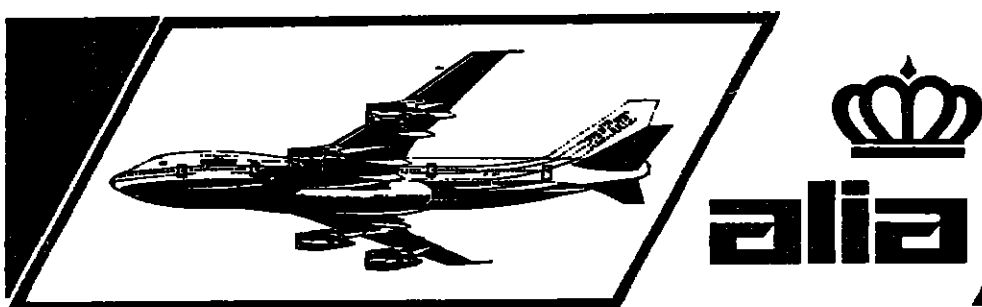
## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON, April 25 (R)—Gold shares moved higher while oil issues eased in extremely nervous conditions, dealers said. 1500 the FT index was down 8.7 to 426.1.

Training was overshadowed by news of the abortive attempt to rescue the American hostages in Tehran. Equity prices were marked lower at the outset and despite some cheap buying in the trading tended to drift lower throughout the session, with lead shares closing as much as 11p down. Government bonds shed much as 1½ point in small turnover but gold shares gained up \$7.00 with the stronger bullion price. American shares closed lower while Canadians were narrowly mixed.

Among leading equities GEC eased 11p while Thorn fell 8p. Banks had Lloyds and Barclays 4p and 2p down respectively while among chemicals ICI eased 8p and Fisons 7p.

Selective gains in oils on early hedge buying were generally eroded but Lasso and Tricentrol closed with gains of 4p and 2p respectively. BP, Burmah and Shell ended 8p lower. Johnson Matthey finished 10p higher at 256 reflecting stronger bullion price.



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Welcome and thank you.

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THE  
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هكذا عالجته

CAST FOR SATURDAY, APR. 26, 1980

YOUR DAILY  
**Horoscope**  
The Carroll Righter Institute

(Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You have important work it should not be neglected for some passing or you could regret it later.

(Apr. 20 to May 20) Make those plans for the vintages and then carry through with them carefully and keep boredom away.

(May 21 to June 21) Attend to those home at it are impossible to do during work week and a harmony there.

(June 22 to July 21) Show that you any length to please family members. Engage in obnoxious with congenials.

(July 22 to Aug. 21) Good day to tackle any repairs your property and make changes to give you effort. Use care in motion.

(Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Go after whatever you today and get good results. Take time to be friends and have a good time.

(Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Analyze your life and know make it more productive and satisfying in the relax and ease tensions.

(Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You are now able to gain aim that has been difficult to get in the past. Acquaintances into friends.

(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be more concerning public work done today and get good work no risks with your reputation.

(Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You can now plan to ster abundance in the future and be happier. Be ing to cooperate with others.

(Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Handle routine chores he day so you will have more time for recreation ive for increased happiness.

(Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Contact good friends who busy during work week and exchange personal like good care of your health.

## CHILDREN BRIDGE

LES H. GOREN  
MAR SHARIF  
Chicago Tribune  
Vulnerable. West

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## JORDAN TIMES SPORTS ROUNDUP

## Women compete in London's first marathon

LONDON, April 25 (AP) — Women athletes from 30 countries are expected to compete in London's first round-the-streets marathon race next August. Maria Hartman, secretary of the British women's athletic association, said at a press conference she hoped the race would help to get the women's marathon into the Olympic games. "The race is particularly important, because there is no Olympic marathon for women. I believe the eyes of the athletics world will be focused on what should be a classic race."

The race, sponsored by a cosmetics firm (Avon), is scheduled to start in Battersea Park on the south bank of the Thames and finish at London's historical Guildhall. Joyce Smith, 42-year-old mother of two children, who won the world championship marathon race in Tokyo earlier this year, is expected to lead the British team entry.

Last week John Holt, secretary general of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) which has its headquarters in London, went to Lausanne, Switzerland, to try to persuade the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to include the women's marathon in the games. The IOC is not very enthusiastic about the idea, the Associated Press learned.

## Baseball roundup

NEW YORK, April 25 (AP) — Brian Asselstine's RBI single capped a two-run rally in the ninth inning and gave the Atlanta Braves an 8-7 victory over the San Diego Padres last night.

Larvell Blanks started the rally with a single that chased Bob Shirley and brought on reliever Rollie Fingers. Blanks beat a throw to second when Dale Murphy was retired on a groundout and Chris Chambliss legged out a roller to second with Blanks taking third.

Blanks then scored the tying run on Jeff Burroughs' infield single and Asselstine followed with his game-winning hit, giving the victory to Gene Garber. Willie Montanez' two-run homer in the top of the eighth had provided the Padres with a 7-6 lead.

In another National League game, Dusty Baker's three-run homer broke a 2-2 tie in the 10th inning and gave the Los Angeles Dodgers a 5-2 victory over the San Francisco Giants.

Reggie Smith, who earlier hit a solo homer for the Dodgers, singled to start their winning rally and took second on Steve Garvey's base hit before Baker's blast.

In the only game played in the American League yesterday, Lamer Johnson drove in four runs, two with a homer, to lead the Chicago White Sox to a 9-3 victory over the Boston Red Sox.

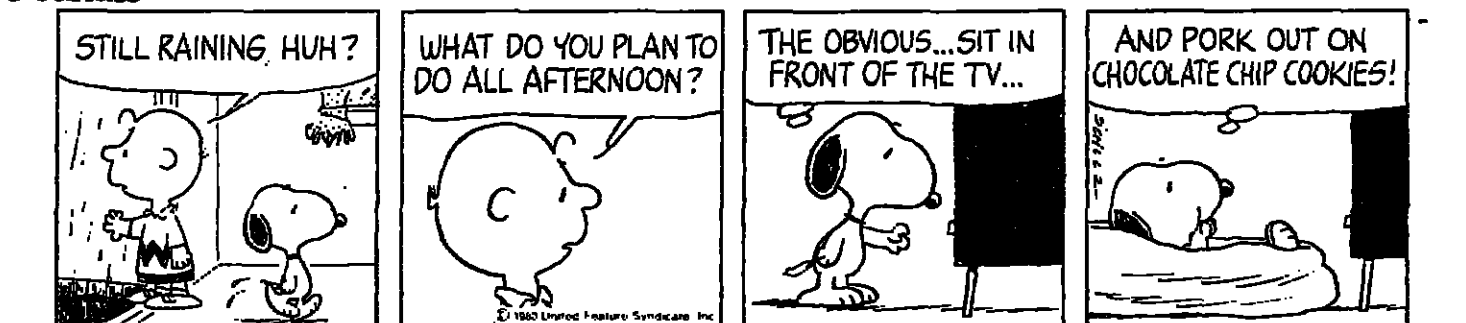
Johnson batted in a run with a single in the first inning, hit a two-run homer in the fourth and knocked in the tie-breaking run with a groundout in the seventh.

## English cricket matches results

LONDON, April 25 (R) — Results of cricket matches which ended today were:

At Oxford: Gloucestershire beat Oxford University by 342 runs. Gloucestershire 319 for three declared and 260 for four declared. Oxford University 79 and 158.

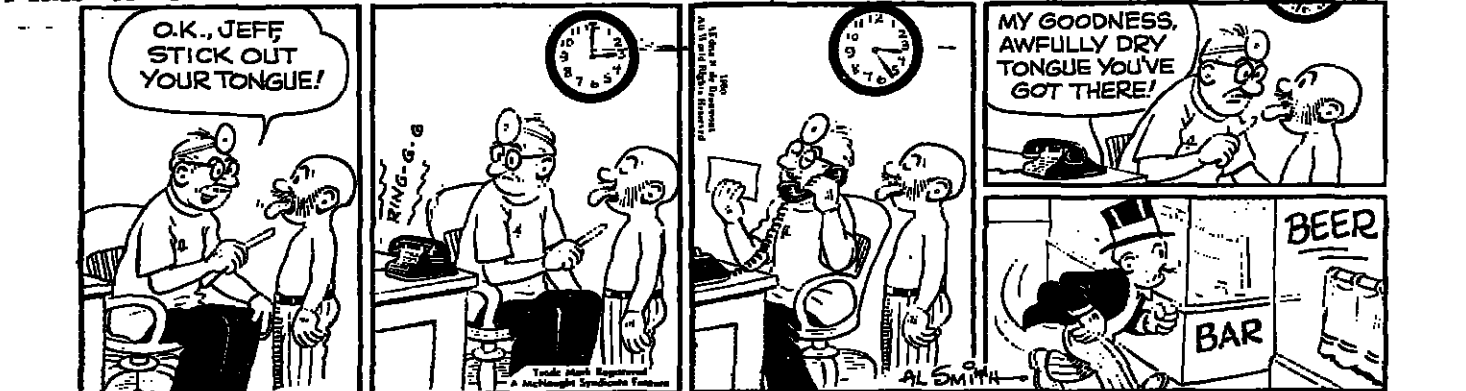
## Peanuts



## Andy Capp



## Mutt 'n' Jeff



## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

## JORDAN TELEVISION

CHANNEL 3	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
	Koran	Children's programme	Treasure Island	Return to Peyton Place	News in Arabic	Arabic series	Local programme	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	News in Arabic

## RADIO JORDAN

7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
Sign on	Morning Show	News Bulletin	Morning Show	News Bulletin	News Bulletin	News Bulletin	News Bulletin	News Bulletin	News Bulletin

## AMMAN AIRPORT

## ARRIVALS:

7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
7:00 Cairo (EA)	7:30 Agiba	8:00 Dhaban, Kuwait	8:30 Ras Al Khaima, Abu Dhabi	9:00 Karachi, Dubai (RJGF)	9:30 Tehran	10:00 Beirut	10:30 Riyadh, Dhaban (SDI)	10:50 Kuwait (KAC)	11:20 Rawalpindi (BA)

## DEPARTURES:

4:25	4:55	5:05	5:15	5:25	5:35	5:45	5:55	6:05	6:15
Damascus, Munich, Frankfurt (LH)	Agiba	Cairo (EA)	Beirut (MEA)	Copenhagen, Athens	Frankfurt	Cairo (EA)	Cairo (EA)	Cairo (EA)	Cairo (EA)

## EMERGENCIES

DOCTORS:	AMMAN	Wajih Barakat (18730)	Tajyar Sa'idi (25952)	1846	Anwar Al Shubul	Farah Al 'Aghabian (81923)
PHARMACIES:	Al Salam (16730)	Kamel (16295)	Bacha (19117)	Tubshan	Zarqa	Alhail

## BBC RADIO

## GMT

06:00	06:30	07:00	07:30	08:00	08:30	09:00	09:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
Newsweek	The March of the Women	Financial News: Reflections	News: Press Review	About Britain	The King of Instruments	The World Today	Newsweek	Command Performance	News: News about Britain	From the Wall to the Wall	News: Reflections

## VOICE OF AMERICA

## GMT

06:30	07:00	07:30	08:00	08:30	09:00	09:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
The Breakfast Show: news on the hour and 28 min. after each hour	Weekend	Special English: news, words, and their stories, feature, short stories	New York, New York	News and The West	Pro Conference USA	Special English: news, words, and their stories	Music from the USA (Jazz)	Weekend		

## CULTURAL CENTRES (Amman)

American Centre	41220	British Council	36457-6	French Cultural Centre	37009	German Institute	42993	Soviet Cultural Centre	54003	Spanish Cultural Centre	54009	Hays Arts Centre	65195	Husam Youth City	67183	Y.W.C.A.	67251	Amman Municipal Library	36111	University of Jordan Library	65111	Ciudad Museum	36191	Folklore Museum	36191
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## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Amman)

Ambulance (government)	75111	Civil defence rescue	34391-4
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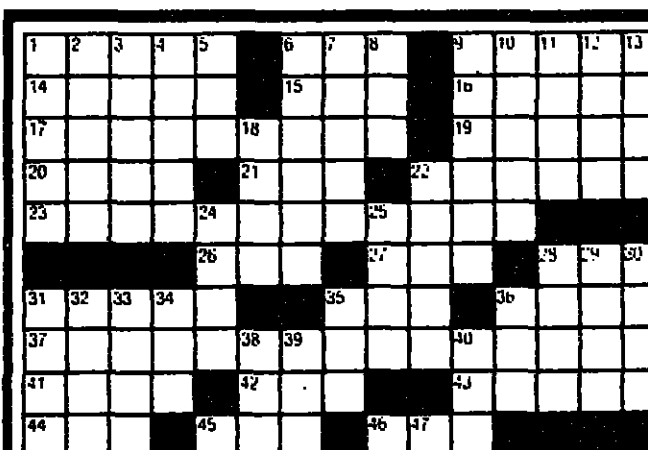
## THE Daily Crossword by Susan Mindell

ACROSS	DOWN	ACROSS	DOWN
1 Boxes	27 Tarzan's	58 Turns to	25 Truth
2 lightly	28 Friend	59 the right	26 Infant
3 Pigeon	29 Apron part	60 Deputy	27 Afflictions
4 Grave	31 Supplied	61 B. c or d	28 Hymenoptera
5 Hoopster	33 King beater	62 Taunt	29 Palo —
6 — haw	35 Lie	63 Hail	30 Jungle
7 Eat into	37 Courts	64 Chapter	31 sound
8 Expressions	41 danger	65 and —	32 Be gloomy
9 of regret	42 Recording	66 Less usual	33 Increase
10 Weather	43 River to the	67 Place for	34 old style
11 indicators	44 Volga	68 flowers	35 Macaw
12 Zhivago's	45 Bottomless	69 Dolts	36 Washing
13 love	46 gull	70 DOWN	37 Blunders
14 Formicary	47 Mine output	1 Relative	38 Migratory
15 occupant	48 Silkwoim	2 of gough	39 worker
16 Soften up	49 Trap	3 of Japan	40 Solemn vow
17 Do some	50 Ventures	4 Marketplace	41 Spring
18 thing risky	51 Fondle	5 of old	42 holiday
19 Domain	52 Four-in-	6 Certain	43 Distressed
20 of DDE	53 hand	7 Successful	44 Decorates
		8 Play sign	45 a cake
		9 Religion	46 Upright
		10 of gough	47 Gas range
		11 of Japan	48 DeMille
		12 Alternative	49 Approaches
		13 Harsh	50 Perfume
		14 Pope's veil	51 in a way
		15 Study hard	52 Park in
		16 Genesis	53 Colorado
		17 locale	54 Roman
		18 Renardier	55 state-man
		19 Manner of	56 Acting in
		20 running	57 years
		21 More mature	58 Enjoy a
		22 Takes for	59 back
		23 better or	60 Engineer's
		24 worse	61 spot
			62 Eggs

## Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

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## THE BETTER HALF By Vinson



## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

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## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Amman)

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## Castro opens door to all Cubans wanting to leave

**KEY WEST, Florida, April 25 (Agencies) —** The government of Fidel Castro will open the doors of Cuba to all Cuban citizens wanting to leave the island, a prominent Cuban exile leader said early today.

As hundreds more Cuban refugees headed for Florida aboard a flotilla of boats launched by Cuban exiles living in the U.S., Mr. Napoleon Vilaboa, organizer of the refugee boatlift, said in Miami that a top Cuban official had assured him the door is open to all would-be emigrants.

Mr. Vilaboa said he had received the assurances yesterday from Mr. Rene Rodriguez president of the Cuban institute of friendship with the people.

Nine boats carrying up to 536 refugees had arrived in Florida by late yesterday, immigration officials said, bringing to 1,110, the number of Cubans landed since President Castro told exiles living in Florida they could pick up relatives at the port of Mariel, gateway for the boatlift.

The OK came two weeks after 10,000 Cubans jammed into the Peruvian embassy in Havana, seeking safe passage out of their Communist homeland. The massive influx of Cubans into the U.S. posed a sticky problem.

The U.S. State Department meanwhile is groping over demands by Haitian refugees to be granted political asylum. Haitians, who also are arguing for immigration, claim their situation does not differ from that of the Cubans.

U.S. State Department spokesman Mr. Thomas Ross said coastal authorities have been given instructions to broadcast warnings that picking up the Cuban immigrants was illegal. U.S. immigration officials have said boat owners could not retrieve immigrants or be charged with smuggling.

On Wednesday, President Castro's government expanded its boatlift offer, saying anyone who wanted to leave Cuba could go to Mariel. For each relative picked up, exiles reportedly are required to take four other refugees.

The expanded offer reportedly

touched off frenzied efforts by thousands of Cubans in Havana to contact relatives in exile.

The usually easy-going island community became chaotic with drivers in cars flashing fistfuls of money to boat captains in efforts to buy passage for relatives.

Havana officials speculate President Castro's announcement could trigger an exodus of hun-

dreds of thousands. A stern statement from Washington said the boatlift was undermining international efforts to evacuate the estimated 9,500 Cubans still in the Peruvian embassy compound.

The U.S. State Department had intended to accept 3,500 of the refugees from the embassy, with the remainder headed to other countries.

## Dragnet sweeps India for Singh murderers

**NEW DELHI, April 25 (R) —** A police dragnet swept northern India today for masked killers who shot dead religious sect leader Baba Gurbachan Singh outside his Delhi home last night.

Police said they had detained five men for questioning in connection with the murder.

Premier Indira Gandhi made an early visit to the residence to pay condolences to the bereaved family and agreed to meet leaders of the Nirankari religious sect tomorrow in an effort to avert retaliatory violence.

The 50-year-old Singh was regarded as a prophet by his 10 million followers and there were fears that his murder might lead to fresh clashes between his breakaway Nirankari sect of the Sikh religion and orthodox Sikhs.

Police said the Nirankari leader was returning to his Delhi home after a function late last night when the attackers, who were waiting in a front ground floor room of his house, opened fire with a rifle.

In a burst of six shots, one bullet hit Singh in the chest and killed him on the spot. Another bullet killed a bodyguard and Singh's wife and a follower were injured, police said.

The assailants escaped in the dark and police were still search-

ing for them today in Delhi and neighbouring states. Dozens of people have been killed in clashes between the Nirankaris and Sikhs in northern India over the past two years.

The Nirankaris arouse strong emotions among orthodox Sikhs because they raised Singh to the status of a prophet and do not insist on the strict discipline of the Sikh religion which, among other things, insists that Sikh men wear turbans and forbids them to cut their hair.

## Hostage crisis proves invaluable to Moscow

## Russia emerges as key ally of Iran

**MOSCOW, April 25 (R) —** The Soviet Union is emerging as a key ally of Iran in its critical confrontation with the United States.

Even before the crisis deepened with President Carter's disclosure today of the abortive attempt to rescue the hostages from the United States embassy in Tehran, Moscow appeared to have decided it could gain by stepping into the breach.

With western countries deciding to cut their trade with Iran, the Soviet leaders, after some initial hesitations, appeared to feel that a gamble to back Iran against Mr. Carter could result in political, strategic and, possibly, economic dividends.

Politically, the hostage crisis has proved invaluable to Moscow. All the signs point to the Soviet Union wanting it to continue as long as possible.

Above all the crisis has distracted attention in Iran from the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

Since the fall of the Shah, Moscow has been searching for a stable basis for relations with its southern neighbour. Stability and predictability, the qualities Moscow likes to see in its neighbours, have been noticeably lacking from the volatile Iranian political scene since the ousting of the Shah.

Seeing the way the tide was running in Iran, the Soviet Union quickly declared its support for Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's Islamic revolution, as did the pro-Moscow Tudeh party.

Despite long-term worries about the desirability of having a militant Islamic state on its borders, Moscow was obviously pleased by the collapse of the American strategic position in Iran.

But last summer, as unrest

spread among Iran's national minorities and conflicts erupted between the left and the central government, Moscow started to adopt a more critical tone.

In September a senior Soviet commentator for Izvestia newspaper, Mr. Alexander Bovin, wrote off the Iranian revolution as a flop which had brought nothing but economic chaos, anti-communist hysteria, religious fanaticism and the repression of leftwing and minority groups.

More ominously for Tehran, hints of Soviet sympathy for the autonomy demands of Iran's Kurds and Azerbaijanis crept into the Soviet press.

Privately, Soviet officials still express unease and hostility towards the kind of Islamic fundamentalism which the Iranian revolution has brought to power.

Soviet Communists believe that in the long term religion, and especially Islam, is a backward force with which there can be no real compromise.

But for the short term, the overriding preoccupation is that the thrust of Iran's militancy should be directed against the West, not against the atheistic Soviet Union.

When the U.S. embassy personnel were seized in Tehran last November, there was widespread sympathy for them among Russians, some of whom remembered that Russia's ambassador to Iran in the 19th century, poet Alexander Griboyedov, was murdered by an Islamic mob.

But the Soviet Union, normally a stickler for diplomatic immunity where its own missions are concerned, took an even-handed view and said the conflict should be settled to the satisfaction of both Iran and the U.S.

But in mid-December, around the time the Soviet leadership must have decided to send its troops into Afghanistan, the Soviet Communist party newspaper Pravda swung round to giving Iran outright support.

Now, with the crisis even graver and the West deciding on trade sanctions, the Soviet Union is going a step further and preparing to do its best, with its East European allies, to come to Iran's rescue.

One of the earlier raids was a failure, and the success of the other is still debated.

In recent years, the most spectacularly successful military attempt to free hostages was an Israeli raid on Entebbe airport in Uganda, a 1976 commando attack that freed 103 persons being held by the hijackers of an Air France jetliner.

Another successful raid to free hostages of a hijacked plane came in October, 1977, when West German commandos attacked a Lufthansa jet at the airport in Mogadishu, Somalia, freeing 86 hostages.

The first American attempt was on Nov. 21, 1970 when a combined strike force of volunteer U.S. air force and army troops attacked the Sontay prisoner of war camp, 37 kilometres west of Hanoi in North Vietnam. The raid was ordered by President Richard Nixon after American commanders had received reports of American prisoners dying at the camp.

But the attackers, led by Brigadier General Leroy Manor, found the camp empty, its prisoners having been removed earlier. During the attack, one American soldier was slightly wounded by enemy rifle fire and one U.S. helicopter crashed at the site.

On May 12, 1975, Kampucheans seized the Mayaguez, a 10,000-ton cargo ship 100 kilometres off the coast of that Southeast Asian nation. President Gerald Ford, calling the seizure an act of piracy, ordered a military assault to free the 40 crew members.

During the raid on Koh Tang island, 41 American servicemen were killed, including 18 marines on heavily defended Koh Tang island, where it was believed the Mayaguez crewmen were being held.

Kampuchea began releasing all 40 crewmen about the time the raid began, and there were reports later that American officials knew at the time of the raid that the crew members were not on the island. But President Ford defended his actions, and his chief spokesman said "we disagree" with the conclusion of a general accounting office report that criticised the military operation.

The Entebbe raid, on July 4, 1976, involved Israeli commandos who flew 2,500 miles from Israel in three transport planes. The commandos attacked under cover of night, killing all seven of the commandos who had hijacked the jet.

One Israeli commando also was killed, as were three of the hostages and 20 Ugandan troops guarding the airfield. But 103 hostages were rescued.

The raid by the West German commandos freed the 86 passengers and crew of a Lufthansa jet who had been held hostage by four guerrillas demanding \$15 million ransom and the freeing of 13 prisoners. Several of the prisoners the guerrillas wanted freed were members of the notorious Baader-Meinhof gang, which has been involved in a number of incidents of terrorism in West Germany in recent years.

Three of the hijackers were killed and the fourth was seriously wounded by the West German commandos. The commando team had been formed as a result of the 1972 incident at the Munich Olympics, when guerrillas had seized, and later killed, members of the Israeli Olympic team.

## Strong Soviet nuclear blast detected

**THE HAGUE, April 25 (Agencies) —** The Dutch Meteorological Institute (KNMI) said it detected a strong Soviet underground nuclear test early today, the Soviet Union's third such test this month.

The explosion occurred in the area of Semipalatinsk in Kazakhstan, an area of central Asia. It measured force 6.5 on the Richter scale usually used for measuring the strength of earthquakes.

Iranian gas, which has been supplied to the Soviet Caucasus since 1970 by pipeline at a rate of 10 billion cubic metres a year.

Iran wanted a five-fold price increase from 76 cents per million British Thermal Units to \$3.63, but the Soviet side offered a maximum of 3.5 times the old price.

Iran cancelled plans for a second gas pipeline northwards which would have been part of a gigantic switch deal involving the supply of Soviet gas to Europe and Iranian gas to the Soviet Union.

But work is continuing on other projects, including the expansion of the Soviet-built Isfahan steelworks from a capacity of 0.5 million tonnes a year to 1.9 million tonnes.

The Soviet Union is also building a 1,260 megawatt power station and preparing to electrify the

railway line built by the czars early this century between Tabriz and the Soviet border.

This rail link, which brought in vital British and American supplies to the Soviet Union in World War II, is again likely to be of key importance if Iran re-orientates its trade completely to the Communist bloc.

According to Iranian diplomats here a large part of Iran's trade with East and West Europe, in addition to trade with the Soviet Union, already passes through the border railway junction of Julfa.

The freight terminal can handle between 200 and 300 wagonloads a day and this could probably be increased. Trains cannot cross the border because of the different gauge.

Road freight passes through the crossing point at Astara on the Caspian Sea coast, where a major cargo handling depot has been built on the Soviet side of the border and a similar one is under construction on the Iranian side.

There is also a fast-expanding transport route through the Caspian Sea to the Soviet inland waterway network, along which dual-purpose river-sea freight vessels can move to and from the Baltic, the Black Sea and even the Arctic without unloading.

The Soviet Union, with its Communist allies, could probably supply a fair amount of Iran's essential import needs, but would probably insist on some political gestures in return.

These might include recognition of the Babrak Karmal government in Afghanistan, a promise to stop support for Afghan rebels, and an end to anti-Soviet statements by Iranian leaders.

Unlike its East European allies, the Soviet Union has no immediate need of Iranian oil supplies. But there would be obvious long-term benefits for Moscow in offering technical help to Iran in the operation of its oilfields, which are now suffering from a lack of American spare parts.

In the short term, Soviet leaders face a tricky problem in deciding how to respond militarily should Iran become involved in an armed conflict either with the United States or Iraq.

## King Khaled shelves plans to visit U.K.

## Norway to screen 'Death of a Princess'

**OSLO, April 25 (Agencies) —** Norwegian television will screen the controversial British documentary "Death of a Princess," broadcasting sources said here last night. The single-channel, state-run television network has bought the screening rights and will show the documentary in four weeks.

The Saudi government has described the documentary, about the public execution in 1977 of a Saudi princess and her lover for adultery, as an insult to the royal family and an attack on Islam. A Saudi newspaper last week quoted reliable sources as saying Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states were considering severe economic sanctions against Britain and the Netherlands which has also shown the film.

Wednesday the Saudi government asked Britain to withdraw its ambassador in protest over the documentary. Saudi sanctions against Norway could only limit damage because of Norwegian North Sea oil reserves but Norway risks losing exports which last year totalled over 400 million kroner (\$80 million).

In Copenhagen yesterday a Danish television producer said Danish state television would show the film if it was good enough. This week Denmark signed an agreement to buy one million tonnes of oil a year from Saudi Arabia over the next three years, six per cent of her oil consumption.

Meanwhile in London, government sources said yesterday Saudi Arabian King Khaled, still angered over the British screening of the film, has shelved plans for a state visit this year to Britain.

In addition, they said, British Defense Secretary Francis Pym postponed the visit to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. A Saudi minister cancelled arrangements to negotiate a \$625,000 contract with a British institution to set up a centre for higher education in the oil-rich kingdom where more than 20,000 Britons are working on special projects.

Government sources said they feared the Saudis may cut back Britain's annual \$2 billion export programme to Saudi Arabia.

Neither Buckingham Palace nor British Foreign Office spokesmen would comment formally on the postponement of King Khaled's state visit since, they said, it had not been officially announced because plans had not yet been completed.

Privately, however, palace and government officials reported the 67-year-old monarch earlier this year had accepted an invitation to make the state visit in 1980, reciprocating Queen Elizabeth II's own journey to his country last year.

The informants stressed the visit had not been cancelled but planning had been suspended because in the present status of relations between the two countries it would have been untimely for King Khaled to appear here. The Foreign Office sought to keep the decision secret for fear of embarrassing the government of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, sources said.

The film has been aired in several other European nations and is scheduled to be broadcast on public television in the United States on May 12.

## Chronology of events in Iran hostage crisis

**WASHINGTON, April 25 (R) —** Here are key developments in the Iran hostage crisis:

**Nov. 4 —** Followers of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini storm embassy in Tehran, threaten to hold hostages until Shah is sent back to Iran from the United States.

**5 —** U.S. officials refuse to return the deposed Shah.

**6 —** Iranian Premier Mehdi Bazargan's government resigns.

**10 —** President Carter orders Iranian hostages staying illegally in States to be deported.

**12 —** Mr. Carter halts U.S. imports of Iranian oil. Iran stops exports to U.S.

**14 —** U.S. freezes Iran's assets in American banks.

**18 —** Ayatollah Khomeini orders release of black and female hostages.

**19 —** Three hostages released. Ayatollah warns others may be taken as spies.

**20 —** United States raises possibility of military force. Ten blacks and women hostages released.

**28 —** Moderate Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr replaced as Iranian minister by Sadeq Qotbzadeh.

**Dec. 1 —** Captors say CIA agents at U.S. embassy will be taken to Iran.

**3 —** Iranians overwhelmingly back new constitution giving Ayatollah Khomeini and Muslim clergy.

**7 —** President Carter rules out military action while hostages held.

**8 —** Mr. Qotbzadeh proposes independent commission to investigate past U.S. role in Iran.

**12 —** State Department orders most Iranian diplomats to quit States.

**15 —** Deposed Shah leaves U.S. for Panama.

**29 —** U.S. agrees to delay sanctions against Iran while U.N. general makes bid for hostage release.

**31 —** U.N. Security Council conditionally approves sanctions against Iran.

**Jan. 13 —** U.S. vetoes Security Council sanctions. U.S. says go ahead unilaterally, with allied support. U.S. official Gulf blockade under study.

**23 —** President Carter warns in State of the Union speech to pay severe price if hostages harmed.

**27 —** Moderate Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr elected Iranian president.

**Feb. 2 —** Ruling Iranian revolutionary council announced acceptance of proposed U.N. international inquiry into Shah's role.

**7 —** U.S. shelves sanctions plan.

**13 —** Mr. Bani-Sadr says Ayatollah Khomeini has approved hostages release, demanding U.S. self-criticism for past support of Shah but omitting demand for deposed Shah's return.

**23 —** Panel arrives in Tehran but Ayatollah Khomeini will not release before new parliament meets in April.

**March 7 —** Tehran says Foreign Minister Qotbzadeh to take hostages and U.S. embassy compound on March 8.

**8 —** Captors defy Mr. Qotbzadeh and refuse handover.

**11 —** U.N. panel leaves Iran in failure.

**16 —** Islamic Republican party run by militant clergy, takes lead in first round of parliamentary elections.

**23 —** Deposed Shah leaves Panama for Egypt.

**26 —** Second-round Iranian parliamentary vote postponed.

**April 7 —** U.S. breaks diplomatic relations, embargoes exports to Iran.

**17 —** Mr. Carter imposes more economic measures, says a big or other act of force "the only next step available."

**23 —** Western European allies agree to economic and diplomatic sanctions at U.S. urging if no decisive progress towards release of hostages by May 17.

**24 —** Mr. Qotbzadeh says Iran will close entire Gulf if United tries to blockade oil exports.

**25 —** U.S. reports landing of special military force in Iran to rescue hostages, but mission aborted because of aircraft engine trouble. Eight Americans killed when two U.S. aircraft collided on ground. President Carter says he accepts full responsibility for decision to attempt rescue.

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